

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-8 (Canceled)

9. (New) An apparatus for making a fracture cut between the cup and the safety ring in plastic caps, comprising rotary means provided with at least one
5 mandrel that can be arranged inside said cup and is adapted to produce the rolling, about its own axis of symmetry, of the side wall of said cup along the cutting edge of a blade for making said cut, said blade being associated with an inlet path portion adapted to axially offset said cup with respect to the rotation axis of said mandrel by clamping said side wall against said mandrel,
10 comprising means for recentering said cup with respect to said rotation axis.

10. (New) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a carousel that has a vertical axis and is provided with multiple peripheral seats for conveying said cups between input and output conveyance means, and a footing that extends upward with a frame that surmounts said carousel, said
15 rotary means being actuated by a respective motor by way of belt drive elements.

11. (New) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said recentering means comprise multiple pushers, which act on said side wall of each one of said cups in a direction that is substantially radial and centrifugal with respect
20 to said carousel, and are actuated by respective cam means.

12. (New) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein each one of said pushers has a substantially quadrangular shape, in which the surface for contact with said cups is convex, said pusher being connected to an arm that extends with a stem that can slide substantially radially with respect to said
25 carousel within a respective guiding block, said stem being connected at its free end to a respective wheel, said cam means comprising a track that is closed in a loop and is provided on a bush that is coaxial to said carousel and is monolithic with said footing, said track being suitable for the rolling of said wheel and having such a shape as to produce the radial translational motion of
30 said pusher.

13. (New) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said belt drive elements comprise a sleeve, which is supported so that it can rotate on a column that is coaxial to said carousel, is rigidly coupled to said footing, is actuated at a respective upper end by said motor, and on which first and second
5 coaxial toothed pulleys are keyed at the respective lower end, first and second toothed belts being wound respectively around said pulleys, said belts being closed in a loop and being suitable for the rotary actuation of a plurality of said mandrels that have a vertical axis.

14. (New) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said motor is
10 coaxially connected to said upper end of said sleeve.

15. (New) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein a third toothed pulley is keyed at said upper end of said sleeve, a respective third toothed belt being wound around said third pulley, said third belt being closed in a loop and suitable for connection to said motor, whose axis is parallel to the axis of said
15 sleeve.

16. (New) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said cutting edge of said blade has a profile that is substantially shaped like a circular arc that is concentric with respect to a path of rotation of said cups conveyed by said carousel, said inlet portion being formed by a plate and a complementary plate
20 for supporting said blade.